Turning the Page…

To be educated can mean a lot to different people. I have heard many opinions about

what it means to be educated and some people have been on the same page that I am about this

question. On the other hand, some people opinions have been the total opposite. I personally

believe that to be educated means to have some sort of knowledge about anything. I do not think

that you have to have a high school diploma just to be educated nor do I think you have to have a

college degree to be educated. I also think that if we are familiar with the treasures of history,

literature, theater, music, dance and art that have been delivered, we are getting to close to the

meaning of educated. Moreover, experiencing and going through certain situations gives

you knowledge of how to deal with people and life itself emotionally, physically and mentally.

This is where life comes in at. I have been through plenty of life lessons where I have had to

move on in order to better myself. You cannot stay stuck on the past, because this means that you

are not growing. I have gained the knowledge to move forward and I must admit that it has

brought plenty of new opportunities and new people into my life.

Chapter 1- Moving On

When I was little, I used to sleep with my mom. One night, she had a shirt on her bed and

I just so happen to fall asleep on this shirt. Yes, a shirt. It smelled so good and it was very soft.

It’s a long sleeve gray shirt with a hood on it, but it is very light weight. It's a shirt that I

have had since I was about 5 years old. Most people I know either have some sort of stuffed

animal or a blanket from their childhood that they cannot let go. My childhood present just so

happen to be one of my mother's shirts. I never understood what it was about that shirt, but it was

something that I simply cared about and it makes me happy. I feel like it has been there through

the good and the bad. It makes me feel very comfortable at when I feel as though comfort is

needed. There have been times when I called myself trying to "outgrow" the shirt, but it always

found its way back to me. I currently have it here with me in college. It sits on top of my

blankets on my bed. Of course, I always get asked "What is this thing?”, because it is very torn

and old now, but I simply tell them that it's a shirt. They may look at me crazy, but most people

understand when I tell them it's like that bear or the monkey that they brought to college with

them. Even though I will never let it go, I can say that it has helped me move on with plenty of

situations mentally and emotionally. When I was around my tweens and early teen ages, I would

throw it away if I was upset about something. Later on that night, my mom would wash it and

put it back on my bed because she somehow knew that this shirt was a part of me. Education

sometimes mean that you have to push somethings aside in order to succeed in something else. It

also means that you have to learn how to accept things for what they are and that is what I did. I

had to learn how to accept the fact that this shirt was a part of my life and if it wasn’t in my life, I

would not be complete.

Chapter 2- Moving In

As a freshman attending college, we all remember how exciting it was to move in and

finally be on your own. I was very nervous to attend Bloomsburg University, because I

did not know what to expect for the fall semester and I have never been so far away from my

family for a long period of time. It was a nice day, kind of hot, but overall it was the perfect day

to move into a college dorm. I wore a stripe shirt with red pants and sandals. On the other hand,

my mom and grand mom wore their Bloomsburg gear like any other typical family dropping off

their kid to college. When my family and I got to the campus, there were a lot signs around,

students, music and just excitement. When we arrived to my dorm hall, I signed in to get my key.

I then grabbed a bin to put all of my stuff in and we finally went upstairs. It was me, my grand

mom, my mom and a close cousin. It took us forever to settle in and organize everything just

how I wanted it, but when it was done, it finally hit me. I was a freshman in college and this was

a new beginning for me. This wasn’t just about moving into a new place. This was about me

finding a new ground to stand upon. I wasn't used to being alone and having my own

responsibilities so I knew that this was going to be a challenge for me. My family have been my

back bone my whole life and I couldn’t imagine what I would do without them. There were a lot

of events going on for freshman’s this day and I did not want to miss anything so my mom told

me to go ahead and come back when I was done. Later on, I came back and everything looked

nice. It finally looked like what I could call home. We had a few talks and they met some of my

friends and then it was time for them to go. My mom and grand mom hugged me so tight when

it was time to leave. “I can’t believe I’m finally dropping off my bunny rabbit”, said my mom as

they walked outside to the car. From this very moment, I then knew that to be educated also

means to be independent. You have to find a way to learn how to do things on your own so that

you can find what you have a passion for. I have heard plenty of kids say that they are coming to

college to become a doctor or lawyer, but when I ask why they want to go into that they would

say because their parents want them to follow their footsteps. When you become independent,

you gain knowledge of who you are as a person. Even though this was my first day as a freshman

at college, move-in day made me feel like a brand new person. I could not believe everything

was going so fast but I knew it was time for reality to kick in. They finally got in the car and

pulled off. I then knew that moving on wasn’t the problem, what I was leaving behind was going

to be the hard part.

Chapter 3- Moving Forward

"Wake up, wake up, wake up," screamed Todd as he got up to get dressed.

It was a bright and early Monday and a lot of things were to be planned for today.

"Sheesh, I'm up. Why do the weekend have to be over already?" I said as rolled out of the bed to

start my day. Todd is my fiancé and we got engaged 4 years ago as soon as I graduated from

grad school. He is a producer for a music company that is blooming in Atlanta. Todd is the

person that I have always wanted. He is Jamaican and Native American, six foot five, he have

bunch of facial hair and he has the style of Kanye. He hates that I compare him to another

celebrity, but he loves that I love his style as well. I am currently a Prosthodontics for celebrities

in Atlanta and I met Todd my junior year at Bloomsburg University. Everything easily fell in

place after my sophomore year and I couldn't ask for anything better. There have been

somethings that mean the world to me this year; two rings. I have a class ring from graduating

college which is such a relief to look at every time, because I know that I have put so much time

and effort into my work to get where I am at today. The second ring is my engagement ring. The

ring that I would never want to take off of my hand. These two rings mean everything to me,

because they are equivalent to my happiness in life. They both remind me every day that success

and education are the two things that made me become the woman that I am today. Of course, I

would have never known that my life would be the way that it is now, but there were plenty of

times in college when I wanted to give up. It wasn’t just the work, but it was the feeling of

feeling like I would never make it. Now that I have actually made it to where I want to be, it’s a

blessing to know that I will be able to move forward to bigger and better things in the future.

There were a lot of things that I had to let go in the past to better my education, such as people,

things and even places where I have created so many memories. It took me awhile to adjust to

my new surroundings in Atlanta, but once I got comfortable with everything; everything began

to feel right. Education is very important, because it equals a happy life and I don’t know what I

would’ve done if I did not further my education after high school but I do know that it would

have not gotten me here.